

Meeting Record

MPO Officials Committee Meeting
Thursday, July 29, 2004
Mayor's Conference Room
City County Building, 555 South 10th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS AND OTHERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

Members: Mayor Seng, Bernie Heier,, Ken Svoboda, Ray Stevens

Others: Allan Abbott, Mike Brienzo, Karen Sieckmeyer, Public Works/Utilities, Duncan Ross, Planning

Item No. 1 - Review and action on the draft minutes of the August 7, 2003 Officials Committee Meeting.

Ray Stevens called the meeting to order and requested a motion to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2003 meeting.

Bernie Heier made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mayor Seng. Motion carried unanimously.

Item No. 2 - Election of committee officers. According to the Bylaws, Committee officers consisting of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

A nomination was made by Mayor Seng to elect Ray Stevens as Chair, seconded by Ken Svoboda. Nomination carried unanimously.

A nomination was made by Mayor Seng to elect Terry Werner as Vice-Chair, seconded by Svoboda. Nomination carried unanimously.

Item No. 3 - Review and action on a proposed amendments to the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan.

The Officials Committee is to make sure that the policies of the City Council, County Board, City and the State (if they are involved) are being carried out. These amendments have been approved by the City and County officials. The five amendments are related to the transportation element of the Long Range Transportation Plan. The five amendments are:

1. **Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 04004**, to update and amend the Trails and Bicycle Facilities Plan map in the 2025 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, by removing the proposed trail along Sun Valley Boulevard from north of "P" Street to Charleston Street, adding a future trail segment crossing Highway 77 along Pioneers Boulevard, making several revisions to the trails plan, and updating the map to indicate completed projects.
2. **Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 04005**, to update and amend the 2025 Lincoln Area Street and Roadway Improvement map and related text in the 2025 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, by adding a Highway 2 corridor study from 9th Street to 66th Street including the 56/Old Cheney intersection, adding an area study in the vicinity of 98th Street and Highway 2, and updating the 2025 Street and Roadway Improvement map regarding various completed projects.

3. **Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 04006**, to update and amend the Future Road Improvements in County map in the 2025 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan, by indicating completed paving projects and adding several roads as potential paving projects throughout the county.
4. **Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 04016**, to amend the 2025 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan to identify a “Northwest Tier Study” of land in Tier III of the Urban Growth Tiers, generally located from Northwest 27th Street, north of Highway 34 to West “O” Street, west of Northwest 56th Street.
5. **Comprehensive Plan Amendment No. 04018**, to amend the 2025 Lincoln/Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan by amending the “Southeast Lincoln/Highway 2 Subarea Plan” to show both a temporary and permanent access to Cheney from 91st Street south of Highway 2, and the closing of Yankee Hill Road west of 91st Street.

Bernie Heier made a motion to approve the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, seconded by Svoboda. Motion carried unanimously.

Item No. 4 - Review and action on a recommendation regarding 2004 Certification that the Transportation Planning Process for the Lincoln Metropolitan Area complies with applicable federal laws and regulations. Recommendation is on the last page of the 2004 Certification Report.

Included in the packet is a 2004 Certification Report which identifies that there are no major deficiencies in the planning process and certifies that the planning process is identifying the major issues facing the MPO Planning area. No corrective action is identified. Mike Brienzo stated that this report is to show the Officials Committee that all of the major issues are being addressed as they relate to the Federal regulations and the MPO is following those guidelines.

Mayor Seng make a motion to approve the recommendation of the 2004 Certification, seconded by Heier. Motion carried unanimously.

Item No. 5 - Review and action on the FY 2005-2007 and 2008-2010 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Federal regulations require their transportation planning process to include a program that is properly developed between all agencies who implement transportation improvements. This multi-year program is recognized by the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration for their funding. They look to this document to identify projects and to ensure they are coordinated with their long range transportation plan. This program includes projects from the State, County, City, StarTran, RTSD, Airport Authority in addition to any enhancement projects. This is coordinated with the CIP and County One and Six Plan.

It is Ray Stevens understanding that neither the City nor the County has any control or influence over many of the projects. For example, Interstate 80 widening from four to six lanes through Lancaster County from northeast Lancaster County through Pleasant Dale. It is broken into six different projects, however, in 2005/2006 there are not any projects shown along that stretch. It appears that the first segment to be worked on which is in Fiscal Year 04-05 would be from I-80 West to US 77. It appears that the plan jumps back and forth where there are areas coming into Lancaster County which are six lanes transitioning to four lanes; a couple miles later the same thing occurs. It looks like an expanding and contracting roadway. Mike thought

some of the reasons were the State was expanding the structures, bridges under and over the roadway as their first priority. It is a matter of staging of the project that the State is accommodating. Ray didn't dovetail the bridges into this and he knows those are separate projects but he didn't understand how this 30 mile stretch comes together. Mike referred them to page A-8, a colored map, where along Interstate 80 there are dots which shows what structures will be under reconstruction. Right now they are working along the Airport Interchange area replacing those structures over Oak Creek and along the corridor that extends past the airport. Mike said he could ask the State to provide us with more details regarding these projects and how it is being programmed and he would pass this information on. Ray said he was sure there was an explanation as to why it was being built this way but there are going to be some areas that are six lanes when other parts are four lane. The biggest project that the State will be constructing is at Arber Road where they are going to flip the roadway. Right now Arber Road goes underneath the Interstate and now it will be switched so Arber Road goes over the Interstate. Mike is going to get a recent flow chart showing all of the projects and will distribute it to the City Council and County Board.

Ray asked about Yankee Hill Road, So. 27th Street to So. 40th Street. It shows that this may be reallocated to Antelope Valley Phase I projects. Allan commented that if the bond issue passes, it will be completed with those funds.

Ray is concerned about Project No. 41 on So. 56th, 1/4 mile south of Pine Lake to 1/4 mile south of Yankee Hill. This project is to be two through lanes plus left and/or right turn lanes at the intersection. Some of those areas should be four lanes or not done at all. Even if we have to wait a year, we would be better off putting in the four lanes instead of putting in two lanes now and then coming back in a year or two and making four lanes because we need it. Allan said it must be a mistake because he thought it was four lane plus a turn lane.

Ray had a question regarding a map that shows the Antelope Valley Projects. In the upper left hand corner it shows removing a bridge and closing 38th Street in 2005. Ray thought it might be color coded wrong. This would mean closing South Street again after it was just closed this past summer. Allan said this bridge was a part of the Antelope Valley project but we would probably not get to it until 2009.

A motion was made by Mayor Seng to approve the Fiscal Year 2005-07 and 2008-2010 Transportation Improvement Program, seconded by Svoboda. Motion carried unanimously.

Item No. 6 - Review and action on the Lincoln-Lancaster FY 2005 Unified Planning Work Program for Transportation Planning.

Mike Brienzo explained the Unified Planning Work Program which identifies the transportation planning activities for the next fiscal year. The Unified Planning Work Program is organized for the purpose of getting Federal funding and to coordinate information on major projects in the planning area. This program is used for planning activities and not used for design or construction. This is a program put together each year to get designated funding provided by the State. It is a Federal Highway Funding Program that the State administers. The Unified Planning Work Program describes work objectives on transportation planning and comprehensive planning issues that will be done over the next year. This report is prepared to meet Federal and State regulations with input received from City departments, local agencies within the planning area. The focus on the report is to work with different area relating to transportation, such as land use, subarea planning, air quality analysis, flood plain programs, and the Airport Noise Study for the Airport.

A motion was made by Svoboda to approve the Unified Planning Work Program, seconded by Mayor Seng. Motion carried unanimously.

***MPO Officials Committee Record
July 29, 2004***

There being no other business, Mayor Seng made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Svoboda. Motion carried unanimously.

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